

**SECRET**

Approved For Release 2003/08/18 : CIA-RDP80R01731R000800120026-7

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE: 26 May 1954

25X1 FROM :

SUBJECT: U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR REMAINING IN COMMUNIST CUSTODY

In compliance with your request, the letter to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force in regard to the recovery of Air Force personnel now held as prisoners has been rewritten.

The new letter to the Air Force is attached.

25X1

DOCUMENT NO.

NO COMMENTS TO BE MADE. ☐☐ ENCLOSURE

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REASON FOR EXTENSION

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Staff  
United States Air Force

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 16 March on the above subject, requesting that this Agency take action to locate, identify and recover U.S. POWs in Communist custody.

2. I agree with you fully that any accomplishment in this field would unquestionably have a salutary effect upon morale and would be of significant value in our national psychological program. At the same time I feel certain that you realize the inherent difficulties involved in operations of this type, particularly in the very territories where U.S. POWs are likely to be held.

3. This Agency has had a continuing requirement for the development of information on the location of U.S. POWs, and will continue to endeavor to obtain any possible intelligence in this regard. Any information produced on this subject will be promptly conveyed and discussed with Headquarters, United States Air Force. Should the Air Force receive any "leads" deemed worthy of exploration, it will be appreciated if you will make these available to us. CIA will then be in a position to determine what steps, if any, can be appropriately undertaken towards affecting the release of the POWs involved.

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4. You may be sure that CIA will do everything practicable to comply with your request and will maintain appropriate contact with your Headquarters concerning this subject.

SIGNED

ALLEN W. DOLIES  
Director

*Re-written*

[Redacted]

25X126 May 1954

*[See Concurrences attached]*

*Dist:*

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